

email from John Ripley, 12/22/04

Hi Bob -

A two part article on early Ski Mountaineers history ran in the Mugelnoos issues of Jan 12 and Jan 27, 1939. The article was by Louis Turner. Besides some info on the hut, I will throw in a few gratuitous tidbits.

Summarizing the beginning: The first organizational meeting took place Nov 7, 1934, at the home of Dr. Walter Mosauer. An election was held Dec 10, 1934. Pres: Walter Mosauer; VP: Leland Curtis, who designed the badge; Sec-Treas: Frank "Tug" Richardson; rest of Board: Stanley Allen, Bob Frampton, Louis Turner, and Eric Varney. Other charter members: Seth Blakeman, Wolfgang Lert, Miles Werner, Dick Jones, Mac Salter, Louis Simon, and Glen Dawson.

Quoting:

"Action was taken in the spring of 1935 toward the construction of a ski hut at Mt. San Antonio. The policy of construction of skiing facilities was always foremost in the minds of the members. Here was one of the chief reasons for the birth of the club. The first batch of new members included Howard Boller, Allan Cameron, Bob Brinton, Cliff Youngquist, Otto Steiner, and George O. Bauwens. It was Mr. Bauwens who appeared on the scene at Wolfgang Lert's home with plans for a hut. His very active interest and knowledge of construction led to his assuming charge of the building. Loans were made, raffles held, parties staged. Work was started by a small group which grew larger by the time the hut was completed. All material, over 10 tons of it, was carried on the backs of the workers up a steep 2-mile trail. The first San Antonio Hut was ready for regular use by January 1936, and was used by skiers throughout the season.

"Then a very discouraging set-back occurred. A fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed the hut in Sept. 1936. It was truly a great loss and meant doing the task all over again. But this task was undertaken with

great
enthusiasm almost immediately by an increased number of members, and
by the
time good skiing arrived in Dec., a new and larger ski hut was
completed and
ready for use on the site of the earlier hut."

I think this should pretty well settle the chronology - Muir's info
was
right.

John

-----Original Message-----

From: John G. Ripley [mailto:jgripley@sprynet.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 2004 6:12 PM
To: bobcates@ix.netcom.com
Subject: Re: FW: Christmas at the San Antonio Ski Hut

Hi Bob -

I'm pretty sure there are some summaries of hut and SMS history in the
old
Mugelnoos. I will take a look.

John

-----Original Message-----

From: "Robert B. Cates" <bobcates@ix.netcom.com>
Sent: Dec 20, 2004 8:31 PM
To: "John G. Ripley" <jgripley@sprynet.com>
Subject: FW: Christmas at the San Antonio Ski Hut

John,

I am confused about the date for the construction of the original San
Antonio Ski Hut.

I have a scanned slide from Muir Dawson, which shows the original ski
hut
and a typewritten attachment saying it was built in fall of 1935. (SEE
ATTACHMENT)

R.J.'s message below says the original ski hut was built in 1936.

I've got a web site reference giving a date of 1937 but not saying
whether
the 1st or 2nd hut.

Schedule No. 85 (1935) says Ski Mountaineers Section has formed, but nothing about ski hut.

Schedule No. 86 (1936) carries first mention of the ski hut, while schedule

No. 87 (also 1936) has a notice of intent to add an annex to the ski hut.

Schedule No. 89 (also 1936) says Ski Mtnrs rebuilding San Antonio Ski Hut

which was completely destroyed by fire on September 20, 1936 (p.37).

So I'm pretty sure the first hut burned on Sept. 20, 1936. But when was it

built--fall of '35, or in 1936? Is there anything in the Mugelnoos?

Thanks,

Bob

Robert B. Cates
bobcates@ix.netcom.com

> [Original Message]

> From: R.J. Secor <rjsecor@earthlink.net>

> To: R.J. Secor <rjsecor@earthlink.net>

> Date: 12/20/2004 5:47:56 PM

> Subject: Christmas at the San Antonio Ski Hut

>

> I will be the host at the San Antonio Ski Hut over December 25-26.

> Everyone is welcome to join me either for Saturday, Sunday or overnight.

> I should be at the hut by 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, leaving around 4:00

> p.m. on Sunday.

>

> The hut is located at 8,200' on the south slope of Mt. San Antonio, aka

> Mt. Baldy. It is reached by parking at the junction (6,160'; UTM

> 424916) of the Falls Road and the Mt. Baldy Road above Mt. Baldy Village

> and Snowcrest Lodge, but below the Mt. Baldy Ski Area. Hike up the

> Falls Road to San Antonio Falls where the road switchbacks (6,424')

and

> continue up the road to where a faint trail leaves the road to the left

> (6,600'; UTM 422919). The steep trail leads to the Ski Hut (UTM 413933)

> after 2.5 miles with a total of 2,000' of gain. This takes me a couple

> of hours. I have a map that I can email to you upon request.

>

> The Ski Hut was built by the Ski Mountaineers of the Sierra Club in 1936, burned down and then rebuilt in 1937. It is heated by two wood

> stoves (one in the main room and a cook stove with an oven in the kitchen) and it now sports a new solar panel for electrical lighting.

> The kitchen is fully equipped and all one needs to bring to stay overnight is food, warm clothing and a sleeping bag.

>

> There are 12 padded bunks upstairs and 4 downstairs. Please let me know

> if you plan to stay overnight. The fees are \$1.00 for day use, \$10.00

> overnight for Sierra Club members, and \$15.00 overnight for

> non-members. Children are welcome (no infants or toddlers, please), as

> are well behaved K-9s.

>

> <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/lodges/sanantonioskihut.html>